

THE MORNING ASTORIAN
 Established 1873.
 Published Daily Except Monday by
J. S. DELLINGER COMPANY.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
 By mail, per year.....\$7.00
 By carrier, per month..... .80

WEEKLY ASTORIAN.
 s. mail, per year, in advance.....\$1.00

Entered as second-class matter July 30, 1903, at the postoffice at Astoria, Oregon, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Orders for the delivery of THE MORNING ASTORIAN to other residence or place of business may be made by postal card or through telephone. Any irregularity in delivery should be immediately reported to the office of publication.

TELEPHONE MAIN 662.
 Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

of Eugene V. Debs. Phelan had organized a strike against the Cincinnati Southern Railway, and counseled violence. Taft sentenced him to six months' imprisonment and said:

"The gigantic character of the conspiracy of the American Railway Union staggers the imagination. The railroads have become as necessary to the life and health and comfort of the people of this country as are the arteries of the human body, and yet Debs and Phelan and their associates proposed, by inciting the employees of all the railways in the country to suddenly quit their service, without any dissatisfaction with the terms of their own employment, to paralyze utterly all the traffic by which the people live, and in this way to compel Pullman, for whose acts neither the public nor the railway companies are in the slightest degree responsible, and over whose acts they can lawfully exercise no control, to pay more wages to his employees. . . . The purpose, shortly stated, was to starve the railroad companies and the public into compelling Pullman to do something which they had no lawful right to compel him to do. Certainly, the starvation of a nation cannot be a lawful purpose of combination, and it is utterly immaterial whether the purpose is effected by means usually lawful or otherwise."

NEW IN NEW YORK
Clever Arrangement for Playing Chess and Checkers.

LETTER FROM METROPOLIS

Outburst Of Crime Which Staggers Authorities—Murder Every Day Occurrence—"Automatic" Checker Player Recalls Historical Fake.

NEW YORK, August 2.—Chain mail promises to become the popular summer attire here, and armored automobiles the only safe means of conveyance, if a sudden end is not put to the city's reign of terror. Three cold-blooded and dramatic murders before the eye of thousands in the center of the city in three successive days have served to accentuate grimly the fact that so far as the safety of human life is concerned, New York is about on a par with the wildest mining camp of fiction, and as regards organized murder and terrorism by blackmailing societies closely akin to conditions prevailing in the middle ages. The astonishing pass to which things have come is instanced by the lack of notice accorded to any but the most dramatic crimes. Four days after a doctor was strangled to death on a populous street the matter had been forgotten and the depredations of the Black Hand society, to whose door at least one murder a week has been laid for months only became worthy of notice when culminating in the blowing up of a tenement house containing 200 persons. Battle, murder and sudden death seem to be sweeping through the city like a pestilence. Man hunts for assassins of children are of daily occurrence in the suburbs, no less than our occurring in one day on Staten Island. The past week shows 22 murders and numerous assaults, and deaths labeled as violent exclusive of accidents approach close to the hundred mark. On top of all this comes the startling revelations of the workings of the Hunchakist, the Armenian Secret Society, which brought about the murder of a prominent Armenian millionaire because he refused to be blackmailed and since his death has in letters to others of the same race in this city openly acknowledged causing his murder and promised the same fate to others unless they gave large sums of money. Looting banks has become a joke. Only this week robbers held up the teller of a Broadway bank during the noon hour with masks and guns in true desperado style for the sum of \$1,000. Respectable citizens are planning to take matters into their own hands and to defend themselves by meeting violence with violence. Altogether it makes a very pretty picture of hot weather conditions prevailing in the first city of the land, and lends weight to the charges that something is rotten somewhere. One thing seems certain, however, and that is that the limit has been reached. New York is ripe for a crusade against crime and criminals which should be long remembered.

Chess players and the public in general who remember Europe's famous "automatic chess player," around which scientific controversy raged so fiercely and which many experts dubbed fake or genuine before it was finally proven that the automaton was no automaton at all, but a clever piece of deception, will find an interesting parallel in the automatic checker player which came into notice here this week. As in the case of its European prototype, much discussion has arisen from it. The automaton was invented by a contractor named Mansfield who found money making in his line of business too slow. So he constructed the checker player which much resembled an automatic weighing machine with a checker board in front of it and a rubber band projecting from a copper sleeve over the board. According to the inventor it was operated by electricity, and all that anyone wishing to play against it had to do was to drop a dime in the slot when, accompanied by a great whirring of wheels within, the hand would move the pieces against those of its human opponent, and, as it happened, invariably win. Mansfield figured that at least one person out of ten played checkers and that of these half figured that they were masters and could beat anyone or anything. The results justified his conclusions for once the machine was set up at a pleasure resort people fell over each other in their anxiety to contribute a dime for the privilege of being beaten by it. A silver flood poured in until a sceptic noticed that the rubber band had a curious way of twitching even when the machine was not in operation. With Machiavelian cunning this rude person dropped in his dime, sat down before the automaton in the middle of the

game suddenly exclaimed "Take back your man and we will begin over." The automaton obliging took back its men and skeptical of the ability of any machine, even if it could play checkers, to act on verbal orders, the investigator smashed it open and dragged from its insides a human operator. Now the people who paid their dimes to be beaten by an automaton are suing to get their money back.

New York with its annual budget of more than \$500,000,000 or rather more than half the appropriation made every year by the federal government for all its branches would seem to be on its financial uppers. The city has literally been spending its money before it got it, and consequently in spite of the half million which it disburses annually find itself in the humiliating position of being unable to settle a few small accounts amounting to the mere trifle of \$300,000 or thereabouts. To make the situation all the more painful there is more than \$7,000,000 in the city treasury which money, swallowing Father Knickerbocker cannot apply to these bills. The city indeed stands today as a startling municipal example of the axiom that it is well to get one's money before spending it. The small accounts which cannot be met are due to contractors for work done on dock and water main construction. To meet these expenses an issue of corporate stock was authorized, the attitude of the city being that there would be plenty of time to raise money in this manner after the work had begun. Perhaps there would if there had been any purchasers for this issue of the city's securities. Unfortunately, there were none. The money in the city treasury cannot be used for expenditures specially provided for by corporate stock issues and consequently Father Knickerbocker is rather ruefully aware of the fact that he cannot pay his small bills and that he has been coolly indulging in the pernicious pastime of spending money he didn't have.

The stork this week brought to New York the tiniest baby in the world, at least so far as any records show. Medical men have heretofore believed that a pound and a half was about the minimum limit at which a battle for the baby's life might be made, but this minute record breaker tips the scales at exactly 19 ounces and 13 grammes, that is, a trifle more than one pound, or about the weight of a good sized potato. Little Miss Brown, for that is her name, measured eleven inches in height some time after her birth, while from one temple to another the distance was just two inches. Some idea of her size, or rather lack of size, may be gained when it is stated that a ten cent piece will cover her hands, both of which will go through her mother's wedding ring. A fifty cent piece covers her entire face, while her arms are just three inches long, that is about equal in length to the little finger of an adult, although their circumference is only that of a lead pencil. Miss Brown is spending the first week of her life in an incubator, and as she is perfectly formed and apparently healthy the doctors believe that she will grow into a woman of normal size. While such a microscopic baby would seem to be enough for one city, New York to firmly establish a record also boasts the smallest dog in the world. The canine weighs less than a pound and a half although full grown, and is said by its owner to be an excellent watch dog except for the fact that it must almost be held to one's ear to make its barking audible.

Gunda, the famous elephant at Central Park who drops the pennies given him by admiring throngs into a box or bank in his cage, ringing a bell after each deposit, enjoyed a \$400 luncheon this week and almost broke up a honeymoon. Gunda does not grow on matrimony, for being an elephant he is necessarily a good Republic, but having become famous through his bank, of which he is president, board of directors and receiving teller, he is naturally interested in money since the proceeds of the contributions which go into his bank are applied to the purchase of sweets for his consumption. When a newly married couple arrived from Pawling, a little town in this state, they naturally while visiting the Zoo contributed a penny in the fulness of their joy to Gunda's bank. But after seeing the easy way in which the elephant grabbed the preferred coin, the bride remembering all she had heard of pickpockets advised her lord and master to transfer his roll of bills to his inside pocket. This he started to do. He never finished, however, for Gunda who was right on to his job, catching sight of the \$400 roll during the process and doubtless realizing its value put forth his trunk snatched the bills and in spite of the shrieks of protest proceeded to devour them. Enough was rescued according to the keepers to take the downcast couple back to Pawling, but their honeymoon was over and their money gone. Sadly they left the animal house unable to entuse even over the monkey which had just tried to commit suicide or the python which having swallowed a lot of dye stuff was rapidly turning blue.

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EDITORIAL SALAD.

It is an interesting fact that the building of canals and interurban lines seems to increase the business of the steam railroads.

There are three billion-dollar export countries, and France is near the line. Uncle Sam is now at the head, followed by Great Britain and Germany.

Secretary Root will be entertained by President Diaz in Chapultepec Castle, where General Winfield Scott was a visitor September 13, 1847. But how both Mexico and the United States have grown as flourishing republics since that occasion!

It is said that a shortage of coal would embarrass our navy on the Pacific. This problem must be still more serious for Japan. Those who fear a speedy bombardment of our western coast may rest easy.

Now that J. J. Hill has appeared in clothes that rival Mark Twain's ice-cream colors wear, it will be interesting to see if the humorist will be incited to further activity in copyright directions.

ICE MEN ARE GENEROUS.

Hot Days in Washington Made Cooler by Ice in Full Weight—Apparent in Small Lots.

Have the ice magnates repented of their sins of omission and commission last summer and decided to make all efforts to win back the confidence and respect of the sweltering populace? Washingtonians have begun to think so, and with reason. Last summer Washington, like many other cities, suffered from an alleged ice famine, and in addition to several suits against the ice combine, there were numberless prosecutions for "short weight" retail deliveries. This year the sealer of weights and measures of the District has been especially active in his endeavors to round up those ice men who persist in giving their customers short weight. Instead of having a rich harvest of offenders as he did last year, Mr. Haskell reports that after a close observation extending over a month or more, he has discovered that the ice men of Washington have been giving from fifty to one hundred percent more ice than they got pay for. This generosity has been especially apparent in the small purchases, and when the attention of the local officials of the American Ice Company was called to it, they expressed considerable surprise and protested that they have not been responsible for this wholesale philanthropy. Now that the people of Washington have had time to think it over, they, too, believe it was unintentional, and fear a return to the old weights.

MILLERS FINED.

MINNEAPOLIS, August 3.—Fines of \$100 each have been imposed on three big milling concerns indicted by the federal grand jury for soliciting and accepting rebates from the Great Northern Railroad. They are the Duluth-Superior Milling Company, the Ames-Brooks Company, and the McCall-Dinsmore Company. The defendants pleaded guilty.

For The Little People.

Every parent in this city should investigate, at once, the new and appreciable shoe for the youngsters, at Charles V. Brown's Commercial street house. They are called the "E. C. Scuffer" and are the very epitome of good wear and real comfort. They are going like wild-fire and the kids themselves are after them because they look so "comfy."

WEATHER.

Western Oregon—Fair in the south; probably showers in north portion.
 Western Washington—Showers; cooler except near coast.
 Eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho—Showers and thunder storms; cooler.

JAPAN AND KOREAN FORESTS.

The United States ambassador to Japan, has forwarded to the state department details of the co-operative agreement between the Japanese and Korean governments, outlining a plan for the use of the forests in the Yalu and Yumen valleys. The plan is similar in many ways to the methods of the United States in developing the National Forests of this country, under the administration of the Forest Service. The decision of the Japanese government to apply methods of forestry to the use of the forests of Korea is given especial attention, because it is said that the matter of a large timber concession by Russia to a corporation was one of the ulterior causes of the declaration of war between the two countries. Before Korea came under the rule of Japan, its timber resources were being rapidly depleted by wasteful lumbering, and the country bade fair to become as badly deforested in the course of time as China and Turkey.

Japan's plan for the management of the timber lands of Korea is to establish in the next five or six years nine model forests in the neighborhood of the cities of Seoul, Pingyang and Taiku. The capital for this enterprise is about \$600,000, one-half of which is to be furnished by the Korean government. Private enterprise for the development of forest areas will be encouraged, and a Korean school of agriculture and forestry, to furnish the necessary trained experts for the management of these national forests, has already been established.

The practice of forestry is a new thing in Korea and it is said that its introduction will bring many benefits to its people. The country has excellent forests, but the excessive lumbering operations of the last few years, if carried on, would soon lay bare vast areas of land.

The forests of Japan have been managed by the imperial government for many years. The national forests of that country covers an area of about 30,000,000 acres, or slightly more than one-half of the total forested area. The management of the forests by the Japanese government has proved very successful. In 1901 the total receipts were \$1,065,000, and the net income \$570,000. In the decade ending 1901, Japan's exports amounted to \$250,000,000. The first school of forestry in Japan was established in 1885, 15 years previous to the time a school of forestry was established in this country. The island nation now has 62 institutions in which the science and practice of forestry are taught. The government forests are under the supervision of a bureau of forestry, which is a part of the department of agriculture the plan of organization being similar to that in this country.

TAFT AND THE LABOR UNIONS.

One phase of Mr. Taft's career is likely to become of considerable interest in the near future if he becomes the Republican candidate for president. When he was a judge of the Superior Court of Cincinnati, before he went to the Philippines, he had a number of cases to decide that pertained to labor unions and their contests with employers. In one case—Moore & Co. versus the Bricklayers' Union—he sustained the lower court in fining the union for conspiracy to injure the plaintiffs. He enforced an injunction compelling Chief Arthur, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, to abandon a sympathetic strike against the Toledo, Ann Arbor & North Michigan Railway, and in the great Pullman strike of 1894 he caused the arrest for contempt of court, of J. W. Phelan, one of the lieutenants

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